

Greenbelter
meets Pope, p.16



Utopia Film
Festival, p.8-9

Greenbelt Reparations Commission Requests \$165K for Work Planned

by Michael Zeliff

On October 14, Greenbelt City Council heard from members of the Reparations Commission who presented a request that the city provide the commission with \$165,000 to hire two historians specializing in African American and Native American history, a genealogist, a legal assistant and an administrative assistant. As leader of the commission, Lois Rosado identified one goal of this research group as being to determine if people of color living and working in Greenbelt have been treated fairly and, if not, what reparations are owed to them or their heirs from the city. She stressed that reparations are not necessarily money but equity in resources, for example. Commission members are also interested in reviewing the city's code and charter with a Justice,

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) lens and in engaging in community outreach.

While council expressed its general support, Mayor Emmett Jordan noted that it already awarded the commission payments of \$30,000 in both 2023 and 2024.

Councilmember Silke Pope added that council had not given "marching orders" on how those funds should be spent, while she also recognized the size of the task faced by this all-volunteer committee.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked how far back the research will go and what can Greenbelt citizens expect from the researchers? As one indication of the scope of the inquiry,

See **REPARATIONS**, page 6

Fire Department Update: Litigation Dismissed; Response Times Increase

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Station 835 First Due Call Types & Response Times June 30 through October 12				
Call Type Category	Incident Responses 2023	Average Response Time 2023	Incident Responses 2024	Average Response Time 2024
Advanced Life Support	Total: 250	Average: 6:23	Total: 262	Average: 7:19
Basic Life Support	Total: 216	Average: 8:44	Total: 223	Average: 9:12
Fire	Total: 95	Average: 3:59	Total: 143	Average: 4:22
Non-Emergency	Total: 53	Average: 6:52	Total: 41	Average: 6:47
Rescue	Total: 400	Average: 3:45	Total: 450	Average: 4:29

PGFD's reported average response times for various call types before and after career staff reallocation

On Monday, October 21, Greenbelt was dealt another blow in their battle to see career firefighters return to the city's station. A circuit court judge granted Prince George's County (et al.) their request for a dismissal of the complaint filed by Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights and College Park on June 28. The complaint was for a declaratory judgment against Prince George's County, Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services Department (PGFD), County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks and County Fire Chief Tiffany D. Green and related to the "temporary summer staffing reallocation" of career firefighters from Station 814 (Berwyn Heights) and Station 835 (Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department).

Response Time Data

Meanwhile, on Friday, October 18, in a letter to Mayor Emmett Jordan, Green shared the average response times from June 30 through October 12. The response times show an increase over the previous year in all but the non-emergency category. Green shares only the average times. "The majority of emergency response times in Station 835's first due area, on average, fall within the

eight (8) minute response time standard, with Basic Life Support being the only exception," notes Green. "This exception is due to the variety of call types that fall into the 'Basic Life Support' category," she explained. "Many Basic Life Support calls are 'proceed' calls only, which means that the ambulance continues toward the incident location within normal traffic flow while obeying all traffic laws, speed limits, signals and devices. Additionally, some calls are 'combined calls' with the Prince George's County Police Department. When responding to these calls, EMS providers 'stage' nearby until the scene is deemed secure and safe by police, at which time the providers respond to the emergency scene. The response time includes the amount of time staged for combined call types," said Green. It is not possible to tell how many of the 223 calls in that category were proceed calls or combined calls, but average response time for Basic Life Support calls rose from 8 minutes 44 seconds to 9 minutes 12 seconds. Response time for Advanced Life Support calls increased from 6

See **FIRE DEPT.**, page 10

ERHS Teams Win Cross Country Championships, Break 30-Yr Record

by Jake Ballard

Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) won the Prince George's County Cross Country Championships in Fort Washington Park on Wednesday, October 16.

The cross country teams headed to Fort Washington with the intent to win yet another county championship. At the end of the day, they achieved this goal with the boys varsity and junior varsity (JV) teams both taking home first and the girls varsity taking home fourth.

The biggest standout from the event was senior Jaleb Saunders who came first in the varsity boys event and who not only set a new personal record as well as breaking the school record but also broke an approximately 30-year-old county championship record. According to Athletic Live, Saunders finished the 5,000 meters with an impressive time of 15 minutes and 16.41 seconds.

Saunders also held the previous school record and breaking that record served as motivation during the event. "The huge motivator was the school record, which wasn't too far off from



PHOTO COURTESY JALEB SAUNDERS

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School boys varsity cross country team wins the county championship for the third time in four years. Pictured from left are Noah Eubanks, Josue Sanchez, Soren Bryan, Jaleb Saunders, Andrew Beckmann, Liam Murphy and Matthew Grim.

the county record," Saunders told the News Review, "it was just a matter of can I get them both in one race."

Another huge motivator that pushed Saunders to another level was the sense of competition. The second place finisher at the championships served as a "rival"

for Saunders and pushed him to "work and race harder than [he] ever [has]."

In fact, every ERHS runner on the boys varsity team set a personal record as did all the girls on the varsity team and many of

See **CROSS COUNTRY**, page 13

Pumpkin Festivities Continue With Roosevelt Center Carving

By Jake Ballard

The Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival kicked off a second weekend of community carving and a walk in Roosevelt Center on Friday, October 18.

The day began for volunteers around 7 a.m. as they moved 300 pumpkins for carving from the parking lot to the center and set up tables with buckets so the pumpkin innards could be composted. At 4 p.m., the event officially started as participants began to pour in.

Upon arrival, carvers were given instructions and a pumpkin and went off to carve. Once their pumpkin was complete, it was brought to the stage to join the other carved pumpkins before they were shipped off for the

Pumpkin Walk.

According to this year's Pumpkin Queen Stacy Stewart, the organizer of the event, they "usually run out [of pumpkins] around 8 p.m."; however, this year, they were out of their supply a little bit after 6 p.m.

Around the time they ran out of pumpkins, the Greenbelt Honk! Situation began to perform a seasonal selection of music and the Witches of Greenshire also performed a dance. As night began to fall, the area was illumi-

nated by the candle-lit pumpkins on stage.

The event as a whole began in 1988 to protect what would later become the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. "There was some talk about the city selling the wooded area to developers," said Stewart. "There was a dedicated group of Greenbelters who did not want to see that happen."

The group came up with ways to get people into the woods to

See **PUMPKINS**, page 6



PHOTO BY JAKE BALLARD

Illuminated pumpkins fill the stage in Roosevelt Center on Friday, October 18.

Letters to the Editor

Rethinking Emergency Services in Greenbelt

As reported in the News Review October 10 issue, the Greenbelt City Council expressed dissatisfaction to the county for the delayed EMT response times. This situation calls for innovative thinking rather than mere complaints to the county. Should the city take some responsibility? The city's charter specifies a Department of Public Safety, whose director's responsibilities include controlling and maintaining fire protection. On searching the city's website, I could find no such person or department.

Greenbelt already invests significantly in public safety for its police force. These officers have proven their versatility. Officer Joshua Forney recently saved a life using his EMT skills. This example demonstrates the potential for a more integrated approach to emergency services. Perhaps a re-branding is in order.

Many municipalities have successfully implemented consoli-


dated public safety services, combining police, fire and emergency medical personnel. It's time for our city council to consider similar innovative solutions:

- Reallocate existing resources to improve emergency response times.
- Explore pooling resources with surrounding communities.
- Prioritize fire prevention and health emergency response in budgeting decisions.

While it's important to analyze the equitable distribution of fire occurrences, it's far more crucial to ensure we have the personnel and resources to respond effectively to emergencies.

In conclusion, Greenbelt should consider adopting a consolidated public safety model, as the city charter suggests. This approach could enhance our emergency response capabilities, ensuring that our community is well protected against fires and medical emergencies. It's time for our city leaders to take proactive steps to safeguard our residents.

Neil McFarb



Greenbelt News Review
Annual Meeting 2024
Sunday, October 27, 4 to 6:30
Community Center, Room 202.
Members Welcome.



Greenbelt Cinema
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www.greenbeltcinema.org

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Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

BLACK NIGHT



BLACK ROAD



BLACK HOODIE



BLACK JEANS







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Letters Policy during Elections

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

The News Review will not print letters endorsing candidates. The News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

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- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

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Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
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A crocus geometer moth (genus Xanthotype) rests on GHI siding at 8 Laurel Hill Road, probably a male False Crocus Geometer (Xanthotype urticaria).

PHOTO BY JOHN KLINOVSKY

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Conclave

The film follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events: selecting the new Pope. Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked with running this covert process after the unexpected death of the beloved Pope. Once the Catholic Church's most powerful leaders have gathered from around the world and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence uncovers a trail of deep secrets left in the dead Pope's wake, secrets which could shake the foundations of the Church. Critics' consensus, according to Rotten Tomatoes: "Carrying off papal pulp with immaculate execution and career-highlight work from Ralph Fiennes, Conclave is a godsend for audiences who crave intelligent entertainment."

We Live in Time

Almut (Florence Pugh) and Tobias (Andrew Garfield) are brought together in a surprise encounter that changes their lives. Through snapshots of their life together – falling for each other, building a home, becoming a family – a difficult truth is revealed that rocks its foundation. As they embark on a path challenged by the limits of time, they learn to cherish each moment of the unconventional route their love story has taken, in filmmaker John Crowley's decade-spanning, deeply moving romance. Said critic Adam Graham of the Detroit News, "Even when the script by Nick Payne gets a little too cutesy – the birth scene in the convenience store bathroom immediately comes to mind – Garfield and Pugh make it worth the ride."

Room on the Broom

A kind witch's cat becomes jealous when she invites a dog, a bird and a frog for a ride on her broom in this animated short film.

Run Lola Run

In this visually and conceptually impressive film, two-bit Berlin criminal Manni (Moritz Bleibtreu) delivers some smuggled loot for his boss, Ronnie (Heino Ferch), but accidentally leaves the 100,000-mark payment in a subway car. Given 20 minutes to come up with the money, he calls his girlfriend, Lola (Franka Potente), who sprints through the streets of the city to try to beg the money out of her bank manager father (Herbert Knaup) and get to Manni before he does something desperate.

SHOWTIMES: OCTOBER 25th - 31st

Conclave (PG) (CC) (DVS) (2024) (120 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:00 PM (OC),
5:00 PM *guest speaker
Mon. 5:00 PM
Thurs. 7:15 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 8:00 PM
Sat. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Mon. 4:15 PM
Tues. 7:15 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

We Live in Time (R) (CC) (DVS) (2024) (108 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 3:15 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)
Tues. 4:30 PM
Wed. 4:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM, 5:15 PM
Mon. 2:00 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM

Room on the Broom (NR) (2012) (25 mins)
After the Wild Rumpus celebration - sponsored by Greenbelt Rec - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:45 PM

Run Lola Run (R) (1998) (81 mins) Film in Focus | Led by Dr. Hester Baer | Capped at 25
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 7:00 PM

Docs for Democracy - FREE!
Sponsored by Greenbelt's Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
The Candidate Tues. 7:00 PM (NR) (100 mins)
w/ guest speaker
Ratified (NR) Wed. 7:00 PM (95 mins) possible guest speaker

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Community Events

Beltway Plaza Pumpkin Carving

On Friday, October 25 from 5 to 7 p.m., visit the parking lot behind Beltway Plaza for a free pumpkin carving as part of Trunk or Treat. Pumpkins and carving tools provided. Attendees will take home their carved jack-o-lantern and a candle to light it up.



Astronomical Society Meets October 31

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 31 in Room 114 of the Community Center. ASG member Sue Bassett will speak on The Spooky Origins of Hubble Class Space Telescopes.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

This is a hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting. A Zoom link will be posted before the event at greenbeltastro.org/events.

Live Improv Comedy At GAC Saturday

Come to the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) on Saturday, October 26 at 8 p.m. for an evening of family-friendly fun. The Village Idiots improv comedy group presents a madcap evening of laughs, prizes and multiple homicides. This competition pits three improvisational directors against each other to fight for the love of the audience by creating the creepiest comedy scenes based on both audience suggestion and participation. Perfect for those with a wicked sense of humor. Given the seasonal subject matter, this event is not suitable for very young children or the easily disturbed. GAC is located at 123 Centerway, Greenbelt. Visit greenbeltartscenter.org for more information.

Planting Project At Three Sisters

The Bahá'í Community and friends will return to Schrom Hills Park to plant hyacinth bulbs in the Three Sisters Garden on Saturday, November 2 at 1 p.m. Collaborating with CHEARS, which sponsors the garden, they invite children, youth and adults alike to join in the project. Students may earn one or two service hours by their participation. Schrom Hills Park is located at 6915 Hanover Parkway; the garden is located a short distance across the grass behind the pavilion.

The event is part of a two-day annual celebration of the birth of the co-founders of the Bahá'í Faith, the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh. Participating gardeners of all ages are asked to arrive promptly at 1 p.m. for a blessing and a demonstration of how to plant the bulbs, and to bring gardening gloves and a shovel if they have them. The garden work will be followed by refreshments, either at the pavilion or in the clubhouse, depending on the weather.

Hyacinth bulbs are planted in the fall to begin their growth underground. In the spring, the multicolored fragrant flowers will emerge to complement the many daffodils that already come up every year around the Three Sisters Garden.

Fall Kayak Tour

Enjoy a new adventure with Greenbelt Recreation, Saturday, October 26 from noon to 3 p.m. in Buddy Attick Park (launching from the spillway). Limited kayaks, vests and paddles will be available or bring your own. No registration is required.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Greenbelt Rec Holds A Wild Rumpus

Greenbelt Recreation's Wild Rumpus Halloween celebration will take place on Friday, October 25 at 4:30 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. This event is free for all ages and registration is not required. Wear a Halloween or cosplay costume or other festive dress and join the party. (No gore or violent imagery.) Enjoy dancing, trick or treating with Roosevelt Center merchants and performances by juggler Salih Mahammed, hula-hoop dancer Jess Greiner and the Greenbelt S.I.T.Y. Stars performance jump rope team. At the south end of the plaza, look for puppeteer Cecilia Cackley and friends performing two miniature puppet shows. Giant friendly monster puppets will also make an appearance. At 5:45 p.m., enjoy a free screening of the charming, animated short film Room on the Broom at the Greenbelt Cinema, in which a kind witch's loyal cat companion learns to open his heart to new friends. For more information, call 301-397-2208.



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

Mahjonn Now On Wednesdays

Those with some experience with American mahjonn are welcome to come play on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. in Room 109 in the Community Center.

For those who would like to learn the game, Abby Crowley will be offering a free four-week class in 2025. Look for more information when the Winter Activity Guide is available.

Dance for Hurricane Relief at Legion

Help those in western North Carolina affected by Hurricane Helene and have a good time doing it by attending a special dance being held at Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 on Friday, November 8 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Local band The Relics will be providing the music, as will band member and DJ Rick Ransom.

Contributions will be collected for the organization BeLoved Asheville, which is an all-volunteer direct relief standard operation dedicated currently to providing shelter and immediate needs to those displaced. Cards will be provided to be signed by all attending who want to send a personal message to the people of the area who are trying to recover from this devastating natural disaster.

GVFD Community Indoor Yard Sale

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will hold its last of the season Indoor Community Yard Sale on Saturday, November 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 125 Crescent Road. Come help support the Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary. Refreshments, as well as homemade baked goods, will be available for purchase. Tables are still available to rent. See the classified ad for details.

Masks are not required but may be worn if desired. The fire hall is handicapped accessible and has designated parking in the rear.



Shredding Event

There's a Free Community Shred Day at the Lafayette Federal Credit Union, Greenbelt Financial Service Center in the Greenway Shopping Center on Saturday, November 2 from 9 a.m. to noon with free light breakfast served.

Free Movies Highlight Community Involvement

The Greenbelt City Council, through the Community Relations Advisory Board, is sponsoring two free independently produced movies to be shown at the Greenbelt Cinema. The dates are Tuesday, October 29, and Wednesday, October 30, both at 7 p.m. The movies highlight community activism by emphasizing the impact one person can have on society. Following each movie, there will be question-and-answer sessions about volunteer opportunities in Greenbelt. Tuesday's session will be led by Councilmember Jenni Pompei. Wednesday's leader is TBD.

Tuesday's movie, The Candidate, focuses on the "courageous moral leadership" shown by Qasim Rashid in running for Congress. Wednesday's movie, Ratified, follows "a multiracial, multigenerational coalition of activists and politicians taking up the mantle of the 100-year struggle to enshrine the Equal Rights Amendment in the U.S. Constitution." Both movies encourage volunteerism.

A table will be available in the lobby of the theater for members of current city boards and other volunteer groups in Greenbelt to answer questions about their organizations. Boards and volunteer groups are urged to send a representative to attend the discussion and staff the table(s) starting at 8:30 p.m. All residents 16 and older are welcome to see the movies at no cost. Organizers request that no children attend.

St. Hugh's Annual Christmas Bazaar

St. Hugh of Grenoble Church will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday and Sunday, November 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be vendors, crafts, a white elephant sale, a bake sale and door prizes. Come enjoy great buys at 135 Crescent Road. Admission is free.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE LIVE

Improv Comedy

8pm
Oct 26th

One Night Only!
Tix start at \$5

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Mon/Wed/Th 8am - 9pm; Tues 8am - 9:30pm; Friday/Saturday 8am - 10pm; Sunday 9am - 9pm, UNLESS NOTED.

TH 10/24	FRI 10/25	SAT 10/26	SUN 10/27	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Greg Meyer Project 7-9pm A blend of R&B, rock, & funky N'awlines	Out of Order 7-10pm A five-piece rock band playing alternative & modern rock selections, and more!	NDC SATURDAY JAZZ JAM, 2-5pm HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION with DragonSong 7-10pm Enter our costume contest	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30am-12noon CAFE CLOSSES AT 4pm FOR TRANSITION TO NEW VENDOR	
MON 10/28	TUES 10/29	WED 10/30	TH 10/31	SPECIALS!
CAFE CLOSED FOR	CAFE CLOSED TRANSITION	CAFE CLOSED TO NEW	CAFE CLOSED VENDOR Re-opens 11/1 at 8am	HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE WEDNESDAY \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE

Join NDC! Go to NewDealCafe(dot)com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

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Greenbelt Access Television

Oct 26, Sat - Nov 1, Fri

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77

(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)

Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station

Featured Programming (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)

TeaFairy & Friends Storytime Adventures: Halloween Snacks

Come along with TeaFairy, Jennifer, and their many friends for a very special Halloween episode! From storytime to Halloween-themed snack crafts to a special guest appearance from Edgar Allen Poe himself, there's no need for tricks; this episode is packed with treats galore!

New This Month

Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union Ribbon Cutting

The Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union has merged with Greenbelt Federal Credit Union! On Thursday, October 17th, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to celebrate this new branch of the Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union.

All this and more on the GATE channel this week! Check [greenbeltaccessstv.org](https://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) for the full broadcast schedule, and visit [Greenbelt Access Television](https://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) on YouTube for new video productions.

Obituaries

Kathleen Hurtt



Kathy Hurtt pictured during the time she was working at GHI

Kathleen (Kathy) Susan Hurtt was born July 29, 1955. She was a lifelong Greenbelter.

Kathy worked for GHI for approximately 25 years, as a secretary and in the Member Services Department in the 1990s and 2000s.

She enjoyed getting coffee each morning at the Co-op and taking a book from the Little Free Library in the Center. She was an avid reader.

Kathy was well known in the community, offered friendly hellos to her neighbors and was regularly seen walking around the city and in the North Woods, or on a bench in Roosevelt Center. Frequently she was accompanied by her dear friend Kerry. She enjoyed the Food and Friendship senior luncheons at the Commu-

nity Center.

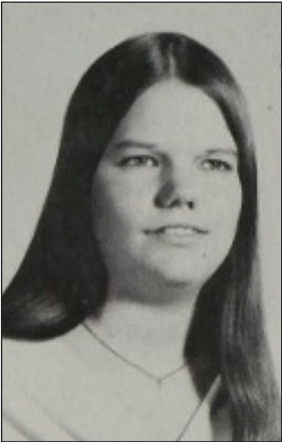
Kathy also loved local musician Johnny Seaton and would seek out the Labor Day Festival organizers each year to learn if he was coming.

Her friends remember her as a good person with a “very big heart.”

Kathy was predeceased by her parents Robert Luther Shepherd, Jr. and Mary Eveline Applegate. She is survived by her son, Matthew Hurtt, of New Jersey and her sisters Karen Lee Faherty and Sandra Lynn Dindlebeck.

The community is invited to a memorial to honor Kathy on Saturday, October 26 from 1 to 3 p.m. in Roosevelt Center, in the 100 block of Centerway.

Attendees are asked to bring a book they would like to donate to one of Greenbelt’s Little Free Libraries in her memory.



High school photo of Kathy Hurtt

Mishkan Torah Helps Food Pantry

Mishkan Torah Synagogue recently held its annual High Holidays food drive to benefit the food pantry at St. Hugh of Grenoble Church. It is a Jewish tradition to collect food for the hungry on Yom Kippur, a holy fast day, as a reflection on the needs of those who experience hunger every day.

Spearheaded by the Social Action Committee of Mishkan Torah, synagogue members donated 45 bags of food. Rabbi Saul Oresky, Financial Secretary Annette Hawkins and Social Action Committee members Phyllis Oresky and Louise Spangle delivered the bags to the church pantry.

The Capital Area Food Bank, in its most recent bulletin, has reported that 50 percent of Prince George’s County residents are food insecure, the highest percentage in the region.



The food donated by the Mishkan Torah congregation fills many long tables.

Community Giveaway At Mowatt Methodist

On Saturday, October 26, Favor’s Table is giving away food, new shoes, clothes, diapers, bras, underwear, socks, sanitary pads, household items and other new and gently used items. Kids must be present to receive shoes. To receive diapers, parents or guardians should bring baby’s birth certificate/health insurance card. Recipients are asked to bring bags. The giveaway will take place at Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church, at 40 Ridge Road, in the parking lot behind the church building.

Empty Bowls Event Nov. 17 at St. Hugh’s

The Empty Bowls event will take place on Sunday, November 17 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Hugh’s church. The event will benefit the St. Hugh’s Food Pantry. \$30 tickets include a unique handcrafted ceramic bowl made by Greenbelt Pottery Group members, a cup of soup, bread, drinks and dessert. Kids 6 and under eat free. Email Mary Ann Tretler at mary_tretler@yahoo.com or call 240-517-7559.

Music will be provided by local Greenbelt groups. At the event there will be additional pottery pieces available for purchase.

Our Neighbors

Condolences to the family and friends of lifelong Greenbelter Kathy Hurtt. She’ll be missed by many she greeted around Greenbelt and remembered for her friendliness and kindness and for her love of books.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School’s cross country teams on their victories at the county championships last week.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

GCC Clothing Drive October 26 and 27

The Greenbelt Community Church (GCC) will collect clothing, small hard goods and books on Saturday, October 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday, October 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Place soft goods in plastic bags, hard goods in boxes that one person could carry, and books in their own boxes. Oversized items cannot be accepted.

The church is located at 1 Hillside Road. For questions, email GCC at office@greenbeltucc.org.

“Racism is a profound deviation from the standard of true morality. It deprives a portion of humanity of the opportunity to cultivate and express the full range of their capability and to live a meaningful and flourishing life, while blighting the progress of the rest of humankind.”

– Universal House of Justice



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT MASS

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
City Council Room
25 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

cathcomgreenbelt.org

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate hope with us.

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM

Greenbelt Community Church

One Hillside Road

We are an
Open and Affirming
Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Join Us Sunday

10:15 AM

for Worship
and Church School

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live
streamed
on
Facebook
and
available
on our
YouTube
page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue
that respects tradition and becomes your extended family
in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



October 27, 2024 at 3:00 pm

**Black Moses: The Lay Community Ministry of
Harriet Tubman**

Ebony Peace with Worship Associate Jim Flaherty

We know Harriet Tubman as one of the most recognized icons in American History. In celebration of the legacy and impact of Lay Community Ministry, we will reflect on how faith, family, and community empowered Harriet Tubman to live a purpose-driven life. We will explore her multi-vocational career and ministry, and confront the obstacles she faced that continue to be fought today. As a spirit-led leader, Harriet’s holy work leaves an inspiring trail of lessons learned and spiritual practices that resonate for lay leaders, clergy, and social justice warriors.

Streaming on PBUUC’s Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Monday, October 28, 2024 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
* Minutes
- Administrative Reports
* Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

- Ordinance: Armory Site Deed Transfer (1st Reading, Suspension of Rules/2nd Reading, Adoption)
- Ordinance: Armory Site Supplemental Appropriation (1st Reading, Suspension of Rules/2nd Reading, Adoption)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Discussion of the Removal of Arm Rests on City Benches
- 7 Hillside Road Site Distance Issue and Parking Removal
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with VMP Construction Company, Inc. for Installation of Raised Crosswalks
- Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with VMP Construction Company, Inc. for Asphalt Work Associated with Approved Ped/Bike ARPA Funds
- Addressing Unbecoming Conduct of a Councilmember per Council Standing Rules
- Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force
- Community Center Chillers
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
* Approval of Fire Department Lease
* Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Charles P. Johnson and Associates to Prepare a Storm Drain Base Map
* Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Charles P. Johnson and Associates to Prepare Up To 15 Storm Drain Easements
* Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. for Engineering Associated with Approved Ped/Bike ARPA Funds for Sidewalk Completion Along Hanover Parkway
* ARPA - Information Technology Equipment and Licensing
* Approval for the Purchase of Police Radios
* Buddy Attick Park Outdoor Pavillions
* Meetings
* Stakeholders
* Resignation/Appointment to Advisory Board

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

2024 HOLIDAY SPONSORSHIPS WITH CARES

FEED A FAMILY

Every family deserves the opportunity to celebrate the holidays. We can help alleviate some of this burden and ensure that families can celebrate the holidays with dignity and comfort.

- Donate \$100 to support 2 families
- Donate \$250 to support 5 families
- Donate \$500 to support 10 families

WINTER WONDERLAND

Children deserve to experience the joy of opening a gift during the holidays!

- Donate \$250 to sponsor 5 children
- Donate \$500 to sponsor 10 children
- Donate \$750 to sponsor 15 children
- Donate \$1000 to sponsor 20 children.

Please make checks payable to the City of Greenbelt and add "Feed a Family" or "Winter Wonderland" on the memo line. You may schedule an appointment with Katherine Farzin to drop-off donations by emailing kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2019.

SPONSOR THE 2024 GOBBLE WOBBLE 5K FAMILY FUN RUN & WALK

Greenbelt Recreation is seeking local businesses and organizations interested in supporting the Gobble Wobble and its continued success.

Sponsorships range from \$100 - \$500. Depending on sponsor level, sponsorships may include logo placement on advertisements, on shirts, promotional materials, and more! If your business or organization is interested in sponsoring this year's Gobble Wobble, please contact Recreation at (301) 397-2200 or by emailing Andrew Phelan at aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov.

All sponsorships must be received by Monday, October 28.

TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING & OPEN FORUM

Tuesday, October 29 / 7 - 9 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201

This community meeting will focus on the Draft Traffic Calming Study: Greenbelt Center City. Participants can view printed posters of proposed roadway improvements and provide their feedback to staff and project consultants. The meeting will begin with a brief presentation on the study's background and the foundations of traffic calming.

Contact planninginfo@greenbeltmd.gov.

MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 1

Tuesday, October 29 at 3:30 pm, **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, On the Agenda: Approval of Agenda/September Minutes, Discussion on Report to City Council Regarding Annual Open Forum Event

Tuesday, October 29 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, On the Agenda: Meeting with PTA Presidents, Minutes of September Meeting, Grants Review

Wednesday, October 30 at 7:10 pm, **ADVISORY BOARD INTERVIEWS**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

FEATURED PETS

AMETHYST

Ready for Adoption?
Call (301) 474-6124

Looking for a WFH (work from home) buddy? Amethyst sometimes gets the spookies when she's left by herself, so she'd love an adoptive family who can spend lots of time with her. 1-year-old Amethyst has been in foster since July and has been such a great houseguest. Her fosters say that she's potty trained, great on walks, and great with people and other dogs, but that she has separation anxiety when she's left by herself for too long. Amethyst would do best with a patient adopter who can spend quality time with her and work on her training. She might also benefit from a doggy roommate to keep her company!

If you're interested in adopting the amazing Amethyst, call (301) 474-6124 or animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!



WILD RUMPUS HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

Friday, October 25

Roosevelt Center, 121 Centerway

Community costume party with trick or treating, performances, and a free short film at the Greenbelt Cinema. (Free for all ages) www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.

FALL/WINTER ARTS FOR ALL AGES

See the current Greenbelt Recreation Activity Guide at www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide for information about workshops, classes, meet-ups and events for all ages! For additional arts information, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts and follow [greenbeltrecreationarts](https://www.facebook.com/greenbeltrecreationarts) on Facebook and Instagram.

Highlights this winter include:

- **Sparkle Mart: Greenbelt's Juried Art and Craft Fair** December 7 (10 am - 5 pm), December 8 (10 am - 4 pm), Greenbelt Community Center. Shop for original fine crafts and artwork, direct from about 80 local makers! Enjoy live music both days, 1 - 3 pm.
- **The Snow Queen: a Greenbelt Dance Studio Production.** Saturday, December 14 (3 pm), Sunday, December 15 (11 am and 3 pm), Greenbelt Community Center. Enjoy an imaginative retelling of Hans Christian Anderson's tale through ballet, jazz, contemporary, ballroom and tap. Tickets: \$5. Advance sales (highly recommended), starting 11/18: (301) 397-2208.
- **Secret Circus: the 2025 Greenbelt Youth Musical** Saturday, March 1 (7 pm), Sunday, March 2 (3 pm), Saturday, March 8 (2 pm & 7 pm). Greenbelt Community Center. As the tide of fascism rises in 1930's Europe, a traveling circus races against time to smuggle a disabled girl named Anya to safety. Tickets: \$5. Advance sales (highly recommended), starting 2/4: (301) 397-2208.

ELECTRONICS & STYROFOAM RECYCLING

Saturday, October 26, 9 am - 12 pm

Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent

RECYCLE YOUR OLD COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS!

Electronics Recycling - Accepted: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, power cords.
NO - ALCALINE BATTERIES or CFLs; NO - TUBE TVs.

Expanded Polystyrene - White, block Styrofoam #6.
Clean - Cups, egg cartons, and food trays welcome.

NO PAINT RECYCLING IN OCTOBER!

Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004 with any questions or concerns.

HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES

Save the Date - Friday, November 1

Registrations open for the Holiday Food Box. Save the date for December 1.

To register, contact Brendy Garcia at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 424-0302.

KAYAKING AT BUDDY ATTICK LAKE

Saturday, October 26 / 12 - 3 pm

Buddy Attick Lake



Enjoy a new adventure at Buddy Attick Lake with a special tour lead by Park Ranger Supervisor Patrick Mullen. Limited kayaks, vests, and paddles are available or bring your own and join in the fun! Tour starts at 12:30 pm. All are welcome!

Kayaks are provided for use during this event by Greenbelt Recreation at no cost. Even is led by Park Ranger Supervisor Patrick Mullen, Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, and Interim Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion Coordinator Priya Gardner Lemieux.

Contact Patrick Mullen at pmullen@greenbeltmd.gov or Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FIRE/EMS SUMMER STAFFING PLAN FOR GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greenbelt, MD - The City of Greenbelt is disappointed in the County's decision to reassign 24 career personnel from Greenbelt Station 835 on July 1, resulting in the removal of all career personnel from our Station. County Fire Chief Tiffany Green and County leadership ordered the redeployment of 55 career firefighters from Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt, Bunker Hill, and Bowie Station. We are gravely concerned with the impact in response times of emergencies in Greenbelt and our surrounding areas.

Greenbelt will continue to work in tandem with College Park and Berwyn Heights alongside County leadership in addressing our concerns and fighting for the City of Greenbelt.

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Office of the County Executive
countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-4131

Office of the County Fire Chief
tdgreen@co.pg.md.us
(301) 883-5200

At-Large County Council Member Hawkins
At-LargeMemberHawkins@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-2195

County Council Member District 4
councildistrict4@co.pg.md.us
(301) 952-3094

Letters of Support to keep/return career staffing to Greenbelt Station 835 can be sent to:

City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or council@greenbeltmd.gov.

PROPOSED COUNCIL VACANCY PROCESS

The Greenbelt Board of Elections has proposed two options for Council to consider in the event of a vacancy on City Council.

To learn more, visit <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/board-of-elections/council-vacancy-report>.

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Trees**, **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee**, the **Youth Advisory Committee**, or the **Advisory Committee on Education**, **Arts Advisory Board**, **Board of Elections**, **Community Relations Advisory Board**, **Employee Relations Advisory Board**, **Forest Preserve Advisory Board**, **Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability**, or the **Park and Recreation Advisory Board** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

Reparations Commission Reports To Residents at a Public Forum

by Amanda Sinofsky

Panelists and members of the Greenbelt Reparations Commission spoke about the importance of community, building relationships and inclusion in the discussion of reparations at the Greenbelt Reparation Commission’s public forum on October 12 at the Greenbelt Library.

The event was held to inform the public of what the Commission has been doing and to educate attendees about reparations and how they can take different forms.

“To focus on repair for one person does not diminish the need for repair to other groups,” said Maxine Gross, a panelist at the forum and the founding chairperson of the Lakeland Community Heritage Project in College Park. “[Reparations] can mean a lot of things ... and those different things will have different character wherever the harm was done.”

The Lakeland Community Heritage Project is an ongoing effort to preserve the history of Lakeland, a historically Black neighborhood in College Park. Gross and the other panelists discussed their own personal experiences with injustice and how reparations would help the communities they belonged to or were surrounded by.

Peter Landeros, a spokesperson for the Piscataway Nation of Maryland, emphasized that when reparations or discrimination are talked about, his community is often left out.

“It’s time that we get pulled to the table,” Landeros said. “It’s time that people look at us for what we are, which are human beings, even though we’re indigenous, so that we can have a say in what happens.”

Landeros said that having a community center is something that the Piscataway people have been pushing for. He said Native American tribes in Maryland have been given next to nothing except state recognition, which does not include any money to build a community center or host cultural ceremonies and events.

Landeros acknowledged the plethora of rivers, roads, parks and other government entities that are named after indigenous tribes, and said that these names are all the government wants to give indigenous people.

“They don’t want us to have anything,” Landeros said. “You have to know the past to be strong enough to move forward, but that’s not building that community center, that’s not creating jobs in the indigenous community, that’s not allowing my

grandkids a place to go to learn their culture.”

Gross and Landeros were joined on the panel by Nancy Allchin, a spokesperson for the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Alliance’s (GILA) Reparations Education Task Force, and Wanika Fisher, a member of the Prince George’s County Council.

Fisher, the first daughter of Black immigrants to be elected to Prince George’s County Council, acknowledged that Maryland has one of the largest Black caucuses in the country. “If Maryland can’t do reparations, then I don’t know who can,” Fisher said.

Allchin spoke on the panel to explain the efforts of GILA’s Reparations Education Task Force, which was established on the basis of religion and faith to support the Commission by facilitating educational sessions about racism and injustice in America’s past. “One of the things that I think that religion brings to the idea of reparations is the fact that every religion has a history of suffering, of tragedy and trauma,” Allchin said.

Allchin added that “justice is a prerequisite for unity,” and explained that in the wake of the progress the commission has made, the task force is now working on organizing monthly dinners with facilitated discussions to encourage attendees to share the things that are unique about their heritage and ethnic background.

Prior to the forum, the commission had not given a public update since this past May. Lois Rosado, speaking for the commission, said that the commission’s work is divided into two phases and phase one is currently being completed.

Phase one has gathered information about race, ethnicity, income, homeownership, education and disability in Greenbelt and mapped current and past demographics of Greenbelt citizens.

Phase two will involve research from historians on African American and Native American history and genealogical research of the current and past citizens of Greenbelt.

Rosado defined reparations for the Greenbelt Reparations Commission specifically as a process of repairing and healing from harms that have been unjustly inflicted on African Americans and indigenous peoples by government, laws, policies and practices and by sectors that benefited from those injustices such as banks, corporations, educational institutions, health systems and religious groups.

“This is not an easy process,” Rosado added. “It’s full of layers, and we have to be careful, because we don’t want to harm, but at the same time, we want to be truthful.”

Amanda Sinofsky is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.

PUMPKINS continued from page 1

appreciate its beauty. One of the ideas was the Pumpkin Walk and it was a success, becoming a tradition that Greenbelt resident Gail Rohrbach dubbed “a quintessential Greenbelt experience.”

Rohrbach has been participating in the carving since she moved to Greenbelt, and this was her and her family’s first time back since the pandemic. “It’s kind of rejuvenating,” she said. “It’s nice to have something like this that happens all the time that kind of washes away the stress of everyday life.”

The carving event was one part of the weekend’s Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival, as the carved pumpkins were then taken to the Greenbelt Forest Preserve where the Pumpkin Walk took place Saturday night. Sunday morning the pumpkins were made avail-

able to be taken home.

The event as a whole not only serves as a way to protect the Greenbelt Forest Preserve, but it also brings together the community. “There’s nothing you could do here that would make you stand out as not fitting in,” said Rohrbach. “Everybody’s welcome.”

The carving in Roosevelt Center and Pumpkin Walk in the North Woods came after similar events the prior weekend at Schrom Hills Park in Greenbelt East. Next weekend will see a community Pumpkin Carving in Greenbelt West on Friday, October 25 from 5 to 7 p.m., behind Beltway Plaza.

Jake Ballard is a student at the University of Maryland’s Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.



- Photos by Jake Ballard



Illuminated pumpkins



Attendees at the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival leave their carved pumpkins for display on the stage. Later the pumpkins are taken to the North Woods where they're set up by volunteers for the next night's Pumpkin Walk.

REPARATIONS continued from page 1

Rosado mentioned slave cemeteries in this area that might offer clues to identifying some impacted individuals and, by means of genealogy, possibly their heirs. Commission member Tom Adams explained that the purpose of this work is to tell the whole story

of Greenbelt’s history and that without continued support from council to fill in gaps in what has become a 500-page report, it cannot accomplish its mission. Again while supportive, council looked for ways to handle these costs.

Trick-or-treating on All Hallow's Eve?

Stop by 36J Ridge Rd. for a delightful scare . . . if you dare . . . BWAA-HAA-HAA-HAAA!!!

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday October 31

Eleanor Roosevelt High School Band

Fresh Fruit Fall Fundraiser

Please support by sharing this ad with friends, family and other neighbors!

November 3rd:
Last day to place order via the website.
tinyurl.com/ERHSBandFruit

Pick up from school OR delivered to your doorstep using UPS Delivery

Scan QR code

City Council Approves Armory Study; Discusses Transportation, ARPA Funds

by Michael Zeliff

At its October 14 meeting, the Greenbelt City Council examined proposals regarding, among other issues, how best to fill a vacancy within its own ranks, funding for the Reparations Commission (see page 1) and reallocating funds remaining from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

During Petitions and Requests, resident Fred Gasper made a plea to council that Hanover Parkway, one of Greenbelt's most heavily traveled thoroughfares, receive more timely, multiple improvements.

Soon afterward, Mayor Emmett Jordan delivered a number of proclamations, the first one being to recognize October 14 as Indigenous Peoples' Day, a "counter-celebration" to Columbus Day. October also being Cooperative Month, Jordan expressed thanks to representatives from Greenbelt cooperatives including the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. housing cooperative, Greenbelt Makerspace, Greenbelt News Review, New Deal Café and Greenbelt Nursery School and noted that "since Greenbelt's founding in 1937, the spirit of cooperation has dramatically sustained and enriched our community."

Looking ahead to Maryland Economic Development Week during October 21 to 25, Jessica Wilson was present to promote CCI Health Services' new clinic and training center on Ora Glen Drive, and Alejandra Ramirez, who worked at Beltway Plaza Hardware for 20 years, introduced herself as its new owner. The store has moved to a new location in the mall near Giant Food.

In response to Jordan's proclamation honoring National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Councilmember Amy Knesel explained statistics that show those attempting to escape domestic violence require an average of seven attempts before succeeding, so sympathizers must show patience.

During Administrative Reports and in response to Jordan, City Manager Josué Salmerón stated that new playgrounds should be completed and open at Springhill Lake Recreation Center by the end of this month and even sooner at Buddy Attick Park. Councilmember Kristen Weaver identified a number of upcoming meetings about the traffic commons study on five proposed pedestrian walkways and noted as well that October is also National Disability Employment Month, one lesson here being that even small accommodations can open opportunities for others.

Armory Study

Council discussed staff's recommendation that it hire the AMAR Group consulting firm to perform a feasibility study on

how best to develop the Armory Building on Greenbelt Road, newly acquired for \$1. Associate principal Taylora Imes-Thomas presented images of various sites, including Washington, D.C.'s Grimke School that AMAR redesigned to become, in part, the African American Civil War Museum. If chosen for this contract that will not exceed \$166,000, AMAR will calculate the costs of remediating the Armory's environmental hazards and renovating the facility so that it might be used as a new municipal building, fire station or for other purposes as suggested by AMAR after obtaining stakeholder input. Noting that this new acquisition potentially eliminates the need to build a new municipal building, among other needs within city government, Roberts questioned whether a contractor should decide what goes inside the building, whereas Salmerón pointed out that AMAR was only providing what the city requested. Council approved the proposal that AMAR perform the study on how best to develop the Armory.

Transportation Program

Council heard from City of Greenbelt planner Ryan Sigworth about the 2025-2030 Maryland Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) that funds transportation construction and improvements throughout the state. Due to economic constraints, the state reduced the 2025-2030 CTP budget by \$1.3 million below its predecessor due to inflation “as well as declining revenues from the motor fuel and titling taxes,” which for Greenbelt means no allocations at present for the MD 193 Greenbelt Road Streetscape Improvement project. The proposed hiker/biker trail that will connect Greenbelt Metro with the Greenbelt Station community will receive \$1.5 million, and the proposed Hanover Parkway Bicycle Project is scheduled for funding in 2026. Council advised Sigworth about a letter it will send to the state asking that the Greenbelt Road project and a feasibility study on building segments 1-4 of the Greenbelt East Trail (GET) still be funded. Concluding, the letter reiterates Greenbelt’s continued opposition to building maglev and to expanding the Beltway. With FBI headquarters now approved for a site next to Greenbelt Metro, the CTP “allocates an estimated \$250 million through FY 2028 primarily for engineering and construction” of a full interchange between I-495 and the Metro station.

ARPA Reallocations

With the help of graphics prepared by staff, council along with Salmerón and others discussed planned reallocations for remaining federal American Rescue Plan Act funds awarded to Greenbelt during the Covid pandemic. Priorities include \$150,000 for a new Animal Control facility, \$204,000 for food recovery initiatives such as gift cards and food baskets, \$220,000 (up from \$150,000, Knesel pointed out) for two outdoor pavilions to be installed at Greenbelt Lake and \$72,000 for a Schrom Hills Park multiuse path. Also included were automated external defibrillators (AEDs) used in the case of sudden cardiac arrest that would be placed in Greenbelt Cinema as well as the New Deal Café, in response to resident Michael Hartman, as well as a third AED that would be placed in the Greenbelt Arts Center, also requested by Hartman, which is utilized, as are the other two locations, for large gatherings and various purposes by multiple organizations.



GHI Finance Director Joseph Perry, Greenbelt News Review Editor Mary Lou Williamson, New Deal Cafe President John Campanile and Greenbelt Nursery School board members Kristen Inge and Krissy Pierno accept a proclamation from the city celebrating co-op month.

Co-op Month

Celebrate with Greenbelt's Only Cooperatively Owned Grocery

by Honora Banko

October marks Co-op Month, a time dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the cooperative way of doing business. In Historic Greenbelt, a community that is steeped in cooperative principles, the spirit of cooperation has been a central part of its history.

Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket & Pharmacy originated as a store that opened in what's now Roosevelt Center in 1937, the year the first Greenbelt homes, built by the federal government, were occupied by the first residents. In 1940 the Co-op was formally taken over by a large group of residents as Greenbelt Consumer Services. Other cooperatives in Greenbelt include the Greenbelt Cooperator, a worker cooperative founded in 1937 (now the Greenbelt News Review); the Greenbelt Nursery School, open since 1942; the New Deal Café, now operating as a co-op for over 25 years and the Makerspace, the most recent Greenbelt cooperative. The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, founded in 1937, was subsumed by the Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union this year.

But what exactly is a co-op? A cooperative, or co-op, is a business that is owned and operated by its members – whether they are employees, farmers or community members – who directly benefit from its operations. Co-ops focus on shared goals such as fair prices, high-quality products and a democratic, transparent approach to decision-making.

As a member-owned business, Greenbelt Co-op says it stands as a testament to these cooperative values and is committed to operating with openness, fairness, and democracy. “This isn’t just about selling groceries,” said Dan Gillotte, general manager of the Greenbelt Co-op, “it’s about building community and sustaining a shared co-op enterprise that’s of, by and for our Greenbelt neighbors.”

One way Greenbelt Co-op stays true to its cooperative principles is by supporting other cooperatively owned businesses. “When you uplift fellow co-ops, you strengthen the overall co-op movement,” Gillotte said. Honora Banko, a team member at Greenbelt Co-op, added, “When you see the co-op label on a product, you’re not just making a decision to buy food – you’re supporting a business model that values people over profit.”

In celebration of Co-op Month, Greenbelt Co-op invites the community to experience the cooperative way of doing business. Throughout October, customers are encouraged to shop for products that carry the co-op label and join in recognizing the spirit of cooperation.

Honora Banko is the marketing and membership coordinator for Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy.

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Community Church*

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26-27
OCTOBER

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One Hillside Road

**Sat., Oct. 26,
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Sun., Oct. 27,
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**



**Clothing - Shoes - Books
Household Items - Small
Appliances
Bagged or small boxes**

A cartoon dog superhero character, Lilly, is the central figure. The dog has a white face with black spots and floppy ears. It is dressed as a superhero in a blue and yellow suit with a red cape. Lilly is holding a pair of pliers in its right hand and a wire in its left hand, with small yellow lightning bolts emanating from the wire. The background features a large, bright yellow lightning bolt on a dark blue background. The text "BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW?" is written in large, bold, white letters at the top. Below it, the text "Don't be silly, call Lilly!" is written in a smaller, white, italicized font, followed by the phone number "(240) 332-0603" in a yellow font. In the bottom left corner, the text "GET 10% OFF YOUR NEXT SERVICE!" is written in white, bold letters. Below this, the "LILLY ELECTRIC" logo is displayed, featuring the word "LILLY" in large, stylized letters and "ELECTRIC" in a smaller font below it, with small yellow lightning bolts on either side.

Utopia Film Festival

Several films at the Utopia Film Festival were seen by two News Review staff writers – Erica Johns and Joan Estenson.

Lakeland’s Heritage: A Call For Restorative Justice

This six-minute short film remembers College Park’s African American Lakeland community as a close-knit segregated community of homes, stores, hair salons, recreation centers and a Black high school, where everyone knew everyone and misbehaving children were disciplined by the nearest adult and their mothers knew about it before they got home. That changed when residents asked the city to address yearly flooding, leading to the 1970 Lakeland Urban Renewal Plan. Though many expected to return afterward, the effort demolished 104 of 150 homes, including where Lake Artemesia and Paint Branch Stream Valley Park are today. Many families never returned, permanently changing the community fabric.

In 2007 remaining families founded the Lakeland Community Heritage Project to digitally preserve oral histories, maps, photos, genealogy and walking tours, with the support of University of Maryland College Park faculty including Greenbelter Mary Corbin Sies. “We understood that if we didn’t write it down or preserve the story then nobody in the future would know,” said Maxine Gross of Lakeland. The City of College Park has formally apologized to Lakeland and a Restorative Justice Commission is working to reckon with the harm done and recommend reparative actions. See the film and learn more at lakelandchp.com.

- Erica Johns



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Iona Godfrey King, 84, tells Utopia Film Festival attendees about the 1964 Ku Klux Klan bombing of her Jacksonville, Florida, home after she sent her 6-year-old son Donal to an integrated school.

Just Another Bombing: Donal’s and Iona’s Story

Iona Godfrey King was a 24-year-old Black mother in Jacksonville, Fla., when she sent her 6-year-old son Donal to an integrated school. “I was naïve; I had no idea I lived in Klanland,” she told Utopia attendees on Saturday, October 19. He received valentines from his classmates in February 1964, after which on the night of February 16 their house exploded from dynamite placed by Klansmen. Its placement on the side of the house opposite their bedrooms leads her to say they are the only survivors of Ku Klux Klan bombings.

There was no emergency response, no contact from the school or city or any reporting in the city’s two daily papers. One man was arrested and named accomplices; he was sentenced to prison and the others were acquitted. King says the bombing was special because it happened to them, but it wasn’t a special thing, demonstrated by

the film’s listing the Birmingham 16th Street Baptist Church bombing five months earlier which killed four girls; the 1951 bombing deaths of Harry and Harriette Moore in Mims, Fla.; and shootings of Blacks in Charleston, S.C., in 2015, Buffalo, N.Y., in 2020 and Jacksonville in 2023. Today King lives in the D.C. area and Donal lives in Ghana, where he feels peace and safety he does not feel in the U.S.

- Erica Johns



PHOTO COURTESY UTOPIA FILM FESTIVAL

Black Hair Love movie poster



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

From left, filmmakers Jack Rosen, Sarah Tempkin and Joshica Kiah Craig talk with Utopia attendees about their films Accessing Democracy, 1001 Cuts and Black Hair Love.



Black Hair Love

Black Hair Love describes the natural hair movement’s celebration of natural Black hair in all its beauty. The film describes the evolution – from straightening Black hair to attend school and work in Eurocentric cultures, to the Afro hairstyle of the 1960s and 1970s, to the many styles and options available today, including twists, twist outs, braids, locs, coils, cornrows and combinations of styles. It describes challenges over the years: white bosses asking “What the ___ did you do to your hair?” and white and Black co-workers giving you the side-eye; your own mother saying, “It’s just a phase until she gets a real job”; and cosmetology curricula containing limited Black hair-care training. Highlighted are opportunities: treasuring Black cultural history, the sense of community at events like the Baltimore Natural Hair Care Expo, and the innovation and small business boom in natural hair care products and hair care services. It notes progress, such

as the CROWN Act (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) prohibiting discrimination against natural hair in 25 U.S. states including Maryland. But most of all, Black Hair Love shares the beauty and joy and confidence and self-love that comes when you Love the Hair You Wear. Watch: filmfreeway.com/BlackHairLove.

- Erica Johns

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1001 Cuts

Women surgeons describe the “magic” of fixing people and the less magical sexism in their profession. One was asked “Do you realize how hard orthopedic surgeons work?” when being questioned about whether she would have a partner and children. Filmmaker and former surgeon Sarah Tempkin identifies her generation as the first to benefit from Title IX prohibitions on sex discrimination in education while still facing obstacles. Her film describes ill-fitting surgical gowns and gloves, surgical instruments too large for their hands, standing on stools stacked two high at an operating table and asking repeatedly for an instrument. They note

that the time spent on overcoming these and similar obstacles would be better spent on patients.

Some responded by establishing independent practices or using social media to raise awareness and encourage others, including #ILookLikeASurgeon. When asked if change is occurring, Tempkin said while improvement is occurring in other professions, it’s not in medicine due to corporate healthcare’s focus on the bottom line. On the other hand, while her generation was surprised by the obstacles, their experiences forewarn more recent colleagues who know what to expect and still choose the magic.

- Erica Johns

Accessing Democracy

This film profiled voters with disabilities and the obstacles they encountered during daily and civic life. Filmmaker Jack Rosen followed disability advocate Monica Wiley when interviewing a dentist, an attorney, an IT specialist, a fashion entrepreneur and others who have various disabilities. Persons with physical disabilities described courthouses with obstacles to entering the building and courtrooms with obstacles. Also described were electronic doors without adapted buttons that they need to open the door and doors with non-working buttons. A person with a visual impairment described difficulties navigating a webpage. A person with a spinal cord injury told of asking an election official if they could go to the front of a long voting line and being told no. A person with cerebral palsy unable to grasp a pen was required to allow an

election official watch while they verbally directed another person to complete their ballot. When asked what people with disabilities wanted from elected officials, answers included addressing the personal care assistant shortage, non-loan financial assistance for education to support employment and, most importantly, being included in policymaking. When Utopia attendees asked if change is happening, Rosen said there is still work to be done. While accommodations have helped, the disability community still does not feel heard by either political party. Rosen and Wiley initially contacted presidential candidates for interviews in order to make this film. However, when no candidates responded, they decided to ask voters with disabilities what they needed from elected officials. Watch: <https://tinyurl.com/494unfns>

- Erica Johns

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative
Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.
Greenbelt Community Center Gym
15 Crescent Rd. Greenbelt, MD 20770

According to the Co-op's bylaws, 25 members constitute a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, those present can schedule another meeting, which can proceed even in the absence of a quorum.

Note: Fully Vested members have \$100 or more in their member capital account.



Utopia Film Festival

Women Farmers in Maryland

How many women farmers are there in Maryland? Who knows? Different organizations keep track of different kinds of farmers, and the state only counts every five years. But there is definitely a diversity of women farmers here.

Food, Fiber & the Female Farmer is the fourth film independent filmmaker Cheryle Franceschi has brought to the Utopia Film Festival. In it Franceschi tells the story of six farmers.

Atiya Wells is the founder and executive director of Backyard Basecamp and the related BLISS Meadows in Baltimore City. Wells’ goal is to educate and connect families, especially people of color, to local outdoor spaces.

In 2017 Wells found a vacant property in her neighborhood she thought could be a space for community dinners, environmental education, nature play spaces and gardens. This became BLISS Meadow, and now has goats, chickens and bees, grows medicinal herbs and produce and has an orchard, pollinator meadows and a forest. The current goals include expanding food production and starting a trail system in the park.

Stephanie Alexander serves as oyster hatchery manager/director at the Horn Point Lab Oyster Hatchery in Dorchester County. She conducts oyster research and oyster restoration in Chesapeake Bay, which she calls Maryland’s 25th county for its environmental and economic contributions to the state.

Exploitation of oysters at the end of the 19th century resulted in a steep decline in the population which, though less steep, has continued, contributing to the degradation of the bay and the many industries it supports. Oysters filter the water in the bay and provide habitat for other bay creatures.

Gwen Handler raises donkeys, chickens and, most importantly, sheep at Hill Farm in Carroll County. A shepherd for over 40 years, she raises the sheep with a focus on fiber arts, which she practices and teaches, and secondarily for food.

In 2023 she became chair emeritus of the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival and serves on the board of the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association.

Donna Dear and Paulette Greene farm on Mount Pleasant Acres Farm in Caroline County on the Eastern Shore, where Harriet Tubman’s family farmed. Dear and Greene honor Tubman’s legacy. Though best known for her work on the Underground Railroad, she was also a farmer, military hero, herbal healer and entrepreneur.

Dear and Greene described the farm as “a showcase of forestry management, organic food production and Black history, as it was a stop along the Underground Railroad,” and added, “We are also proud to be facilitating the restoration of relationships between Black people and land.”

Cathy Schmidt, founder and executive director of Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding in northern Harford County, left corporate America for fulfilling work with horses. CTR offers a variety of

equine-related educational and experiential services.

Schmidt points out that pasture management is an essential part of raising horses for their health and well-being.

CTR has several eco-friendly projects, many water-related, such as rainwater filtering and harvesting. They also planted 900 native Maryland plants to create a pollinator meadow, fertilized in part by horse manure.

Franceschi said she enjoys “finding people to tell an authentic story.” She added, “I don’t write the story, the story writes itself.”

- Joan Estenson



Food, Fiber, & the Female Farmer movie poster



PHOTO COURTESY UTOPIA FILM FESTIVAL

Beyond Barriers: The Road to Well-Being

In Naco, a Mexico-Arizona border community, Mexican and U.S. residents came together to address health issues from depression to diabetes in a place where the nearest hospital is two hours away. They planned local solutions including a local health center and community gardens. They engaged Arizona universities’ support to develop lesson plans to teach gardening and healthy eating to schoolchildren and families, and locals became

healthcare practitioners to serve their community. Though their plans were disrupted by new border wall construction and by the pandemic lockdown limiting access to food, supplies and services, the gardens and other activities provided crucial food, exercise and social connection during lockdown. Since then, the project has continued and grown, with the community literally taking its life in its own hands.

- Erica Johns



Exception

This film echoes current academic controversies around Israel, Palestine and free speech. Tenured psychology professor Karim Hadawi is discussing the psychology of oppressors with his class when a question about Israel leads him to compare Israeli treatment of Palestinians to South African apartheid, after which a viral cellphone video sparks accusations of antisemitism and a disciplinary committee hearing.

He is prepared to apologize when the committee demands he go even further. He expresses empathy for the pressures faced by university leaders, echoing class discussion of victim empathy for oppressors. His solution addresses the pressure the committee faces, his ethics, the danger to others’ academic freedom and risks to his family life.

- Erica Johns



Exception movie poster

PHOTO COURTESY UTOPIA FILM FESTIVAL



Unintended Consequences

The film Unintended Consequences: Saving the Sole of Louisiana, focuses on Lafitte, Jefferson Parish, located in the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary, on the sole of boot-shaped Louisiana in the Mississippi Delta. The estuary is one of the most biologically productive in the world. These wetlands and bays are a mecca for fishermen, recreational and commercial, providing food and culture for Louisiana and the world.

The levees built along the Mississippi provide benefits but also, as the film’s title says, have the unintended consequences of losing the equivalent of a football field of land every 14 minutes,

Before the levees were built the river carried sediment – sand, silt and clay. As the river slowed down it dropped the sediment, building new wetlands and bayous that provided a buffer protecting the land from the effects of weather. Levees built along the river protected land, but accelerated the river’s flow speed so that today remaining sediment is shot out the river’s mouth into the ocean depths. The Mississippi has lost its capacity to build wetlands naturally.

Those living outside this area wonder why people stay, but the residents point out that the same question isn’t asked when cities like Boston or New York have weather or other challenges. “The question is a non-starter,” they said.

It will cost \$1 billion a year to maintain, restore and protect the land, but not investing in preservation will result in losses bigger than the cost.

- Joan Estenson



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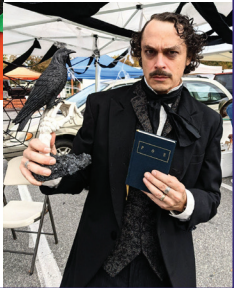
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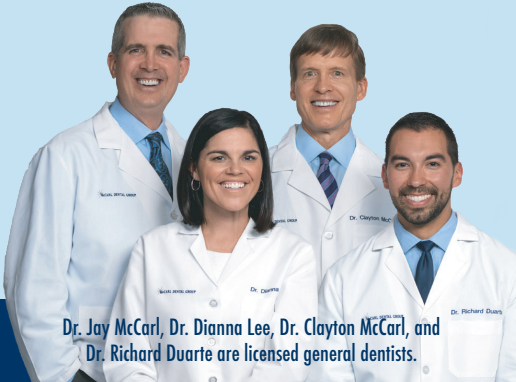
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COMPASS

Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union Cuts the Ribbon

by Cathie Meetre

On a perfect fall day and with appropriate fanfare, vivid green and purple balloon arches and short speeches, the Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union (PGCFCU) celebrated the integration of the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union (GFCU) into its family.

A small crowd, consisting of city staff, local residents, PGCF-CU employees and former GFCU staff and board members, were present to enjoy cookies and giveaways while they celebrated the formal completion of the process. Announced in late 2023, the transition had spanned several months as the many complex activities required to successfully assimilate the newest of PGCFCU’s four locations in the county were completed (the other branches are in Beltsville, Bowie and Largo).

Comproni Thanked

After an introduction by PGCFCU Board President Darryl Jones, a short speech by Chief Executive Officer Diane Brown marked the formal moment of transfer. Brown sent generous praise, best wishes and thanks to Cindy Comproni, longtime manager of the GFCU, while enthusiastically ushering in the new organization. On hand also and bringing continuity to the transition was Charles “Chuck” Hess, former GFCU board member, now also on the board of the new organization.

Hess, speaking briefly, acknowledged that the decision to merge with PGCFCU had been a difficult one for an organization that had been autonomous for so long. He deemed it, however, to be both necessary and the best way forward.

Mayor Emmett Jordan and the city’s new Economic Development Officer John Mason were present with Councilmembers Jenni Pompei and Kristen Weaver, as Jordan welcomed the new organization to the city and congratulated the staff of both credit unions for successfully effecting the complex handover.



PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE

PGCFU CEO Diane Brown (center) and board member Chuck Hess (left) pose with Board President Darryl Jones who holds the scissors he just used to cut the ribbon for the formal opening of the Greenbelt branch of Prince George’s Community Federal Credit Union. Mayor Jordan stands in the background.

Wielding a giant pair of scissors, Jones cut the broad swath of green ribbon (the remains of which were carried off by Weaver, who noted that two big pieces of green ribbon would surely prove useful somewhere). The crowd cheered enthusiastically and a determined customer ducked through the festivities to use the ATM, proving once again that life must go on.

Rationale for Change

GFCU was one of Greenbelt’s earliest organizations and has been a consistent mainstay of Roosevelt Center. The rationale for the merger was explained in a December 2023 letter to the membership signed by GFCU’s Board Chair Ed James and Interim Manager Nicole Velasquez.

It stated that, “While our credit union is financially strong, the opportunities and efficiencies afforded by merging with a larger organization are undeniable. A merger with PGCFCU would create a combined organization of over \$289 million in assets with four branch locations to serve you. In addition, GFCU and PGCFCU have a shared history of serving the community.”

Founded in 1937, almost immediately after the first residents of Greenbelt arrived in the city, the credit union has ranked with this newspaper as one of the earliest resident-led cornerstones of the new city, bringing essential banking services to its residents.

FIRE DEPT. continued from page 1

minutes 23 seconds to 7 minutes 19 seconds. The average response time for fire calls increased by 23 seconds and for rescue it increased an average of 44 seconds.

Green said the department would continue to monitor and assess the effectiveness of their staffing plan and modify as needed. She also noted the Fire/EMS Department placed an additional Peak EMS Unit in service effective October 13, so there are now two Peak EMS Units positioned in Greenbelt to enhance coverage. Additionally, effective October 13, “The Fire/EMS Department implemented system status management as needed to deploy fire suppression resources from other regions of the County into the Greenbelt and Berwyn Heights areas to ensure enhanced coverage for service demand. This process will be utilized when Station 814 (Berwyn Heights) is unable to provide volunteer staffing on fire suppression units,” states the letter.

Loss of Previous Benefit

The circuit court judge found that Greenbelt’s loss from the removal of the career firefighters was not an injury but rather the loss of a benefit they’d previously enjoyed. She stated in the order, “Plaintiffs allege that the staffing plan has ‘taken an understaffing issue, which applied in certain parts of the County ... and spread it to now encompass’

the Plaintiffs. Assuming the truth of these relevant and material facts, Plaintiffs’ own Complaint establishes they do not have any injury greater than the general public, in this case defined as other communities and other fire stations in Prince George’s County. The Complaint argues the proposition that challenges faced by other communities as a result of understaffing, from which Plaintiffs were previously immune, would now also include them. Sharing the burdens of neighboring communities does not create a special damage, but does, perhaps, eliminate a special benefit previously received.”

No Actual Harm

In addition, the judge found “no actual harm caused by implementation of the staffing plan.” Though Greenbelt argued the staffing plan failed to provide data to show acceptable drive times for emergency responses would be maintained, the judge found that the complainants failed to provide data showing they wouldn’t.

“Plaintiffs allege that under the plan ‘response times will ... exceed 8 minutes,’ and ‘the average fire and emergency medical services call time ... will at least double,’ but provide no factual support for those hypothetical conclusions. ... Plaintiffs have therefore failed to show any actual harm,” stated the findings.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred October 14-20, 2024. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police Department had two mental health diversions, one involving sexual assault, and two domestic incidents with arrest.

Carjacking

On October 15 at 8:10 p.m. near 121 Centerway, a woman was approached by two men who displayed a gun and demanded her vehicle. The car was tracked and recovered in Greenbelt with no damage.

Robbery

On October 18 at 3:31 p.m. near 7343 Morrison Drive, a postal employee was delivering mail when a man in dark clothing forcefully took her master key from her hand before fleeing in a silver sedan.

Assault

On October 20 at 12:28 a.m. near 9108 Edmonston Road, a man was assaulted at a party in front of his apartment by another man known to him.

Disorderly

On October 14 at 8:52 p.m. near 25 Crescent Road, a man was causing a scene during a citizens' meeting, speaking out of turn and cursing. Advised multiple times to act appropriately, he refused to comply and was asked to leave. Police were called and asked him to leave, then escorted him out of the building and gave him a criminal citation for disorderly conduct.

Fraud

On October 16 near 7565 Greenbelt Road, someone withdrew a large amount of money from a woman's bank accounts.

Illegal Activities in Hotel

On October 16 at 11:55 p.m. near 6400 Ivy Lane, the hotel manager called about possible illegal activities in various rooms.

Theft

On October 16 at 5:02 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, an Uber driver suspected that his last passenger took his keys; near 5817 Cherrywood Lane, a package was taken from the front door of a residence.

On October 18 near 6205 Springhill Drive, a delivered package was missing, but a neighbor had accidentally received it and returned it with everything accounted for.

On October 19 near 6205 Springhill Drive, another package was stolen from the front door.

On October 20 near 6205 Springhill Drive, doorbell camera footage shows a man stealing a delivered package from the front door.

Shoplifting

On October 14 at 10:12 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a previously banned man was stealing merchandise; police arrested him for trespassing and theft.

On October 15 at 8:10 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man and woman placed items in bags and walked out.

On October 17 at 5:34 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, police captured three juveniles who had stolen store merchandise; they were released into their guardian's custody after all items were returned.

On October 18 at 1:36 p.m. near 7583 Greenbelt Drive, a man and woman stole items.

Vandalism

On October 14 near Greenbelt Drive and Mandan Road, a red light camera was damaged.

On October 16 near 9135 Edmonston Terrace, kids throwing rocks broke an apartment window.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

On October 15 near 6600 Capitol Drive, an officer observed several juveniles in a vehicle; they fled the scene when they noticed the officer. The tag led to a local residence, where officers discovered the vehicle had just been stolen.

On October 15 at 9:41 p.m. near 5243 Stream Bank Lane, a delivery driver left his vehicle running and unlocked while delivering food, and a man got in and drove off.

Three additional stolen vehicles included on October 15 near 9146 Edmonston Road, a 2020 Honda Accord (Md. 8EF7628); on October 17 near 9234 Edmonston Road, a white 2025 Honda Pilot (Md. 39934CL); and on October 19 near 8009 Mandan Road, a 2017 Lexus (Md. 6FR5525).

Stolen Vehicle Recovered

On October 15 near 6805 Damsel Court, a vehicle was stolen; the owner could ping its location, and it was recovered with ignition damage.

Attempted Theft of Auto

On October 14 at 8:35 a.m. near 7817 Mandan Road, a witness saw three men tampering with a silver Hyundai. The car had a broken door handle, side window, and ignition. Officers notified the owner but did not find the men.

Theft from Auto

All four wheels were stolen from six cars on October 17: a 2025 Honda Civic near 5995 Springhill Drive; a 2022 Toyota near 6400 Cherrywood Lane; a Civic near 6602 Lake Park Drive; a Toyota Camry near 8015 Mandan Road; a Camry near 5807

Cherrywood Lane; and a Civic near 6000 Springhill Drive.

Tags were stolen from vehicles on October 16 near 6968 Hanover Parkway and on October 20 near 5906 Cherrywood Terrace.

Vandalism to Auto

Three vehicles had damage to the door handle: on October 16 near 9306 Edmonston Road, and near 121 Centerway; and on October 19 near 38 Ridge Road.

On October 17 near 8015 Mandan Road, a vehicle window was broken.

Kathleen Susan Hurtt Is Deceased Person

The person found deceased near a trail in the North Woods on Tuesday, October 15 has been formally identified as Kathleen Susan Hurtt.

That afternoon, Greenbelt police received two separate calls as one resident found a purse and belongings near the trail and a short time later another resident reported finding Hurtt.

Friends of Hurtt had shared calls for information online in the days leading up to the discovery of her body because she had not been seen around Greenbelt for several days.

Police said there was no indication of foul play at the time. Her cause of death is unknown pending a report from the medical examiner. That report will be sent directly to her family unless there's a suspicion of foul play.

Multiple Cars Tampered With Across City

Overnight on Monday, October 21, several cars were tampered with in Greenbelt. The acts appeared to be perpetrated by the same individuals, juveniles or youths using a white Toyota Camry. Patrol officers canvassed the area and notified local security to look out for the vehicle. A security officer alerted police to the presence of the car in the Hunting Ridge complex. Officers arrived quickly, but the vehicle fled at high speed, nearly striking several parked vehicles as it escaped. High-speed vehicle pursuits, as a city policy, are not authorized for non-violent misdemeanor crimes such as tampering or vandalism. Greenbelt Police did not pursue.

School News

PGPD Investigates 47 School Threats, Charges 10 Students

Since the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic school year, the Prince George's County Police Department's (PGPD) Homeland Security Division has investigated 47 school-related threats. Investigators have charged 10 students in connection with these cases. They are facing criminal charges. They are between the ages of 13 and 16 years old. Detectives also identified four additional juveniles under the age of 13 who are connected to these threats. Due to Maryland law, the agency is unable to charge those juveniles.

The police department will continue to aggressively investigate all threats of violence at county schools, which are primarily spread through various social media platforms. PGPD emphasizes that they take each threat seriously and, when possible, will charge those responsible.

The agency urges parents and guardians to talk to their children about this serious topic as everyone collectively works to keep students and staff safe.

Information in this article is drawn from a PGPD press release.

Greenbelt Has Armed Carjacking For the Third Consecutive Week

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Monday, October 21 at 11:02 p.m. an armed carjacking took place in the 7900 block of Mandan Road. The victim was sitting in his car playing Pokémon Go when he was approached by three young males wearing medical masks, one of whom was armed with a gun. He was attacked and assaulted before his Toyota Camry was stolen. The victim received medical treatment from responders at the scene but did not need to be transported to a hospital.

This armed carjacking is the third to be reported in as many weeks. Last week an armed carjacking by two young males was reported before 9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, in the area of Roosevelt Center. That car was located just hours later on the other side of Greenbelt.

Two weeks ago, on Monday, October 7 around 5:30 p.m., an armed carjacking took place near the 51 Court of Ridge Road. In that instance the carjackers arrived in an original vehicle, carjacked a Nissan from the resident and fled in the two cars. Police were able to pursue their original vehicle, which was a stolen car that had been recently carjacked. Police pursued the vehicle on I-495 but it was able to elude them once it got to the area of Central Avenue.

Greenbelt Police Department's Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis says there is no way to tell at this time if the three armed carjackings are related. Dennis noted that the cars

used in each were different. Last week's carjacking near Roosevelt Center differed from the other two in that the carjackers' final destination appeared to be nearby in Greenbelt.

The armed carjacking on Monday brings the total for the year to seven, with three occurring in October. This spate of weekly armed carjackings is unusual for the city because, in general, over the last year Greenbelt has not experienced armed carjacking on a monthly basis, let alone weekly. In 2023 there was a total of nine armed carjackings during the year, reported Dennis.

Greenbelt Police request that anyone with information about these incidents call them at 301-474-7200.

Maryland DOT Urges Extra Caution on Roads

As days get shorter and Halloween approaches, the Maryland Department of Transportation urges drivers to stay alert for pedestrians and bicyclists and follow the rules of the road.

October is designated National Pedestrian Safety Month by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

According to NHTSA, 78 percent of pedestrian fatalities nationwide occur when it's dark outside. To help increase safety, pedestrians are encouraged to wear bright colors and reflective clothes when walking or riding at dusk, nighttime and in early morning hours.

Red Extensible Dog Leash found on Lake trail near picket gate. Call 301-938-5588




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Contact Marie at 301-452-1107

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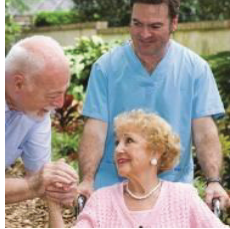
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Hispanic Heritage Month

Fiesta Latina Unites Cultures At Eleanor Roosevelt High School

by Johana Gonzalez-Cruz

On Tuesday, October 15, Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) celebrated its annual Fiesta Latina event in the media center to commemorate the end of Hispanic Heritage Month, hosted by the school’s English Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. The room was filled with a contagious energy throughout the event – the vibrant Latin music making its way to the ears of each individual amid the chatter and laughter of students bringing the space to life in a harmonious manner. The celebration was full of activities, starting with an array of Latino literature on display for students to view, followed by student-led poetry recitations and discussions. Rounds of a Latin-themed bingo made for fun before it closed with a Kahoot learning game to test the knowledge of Latino culture while students indulged in a variety of food such as tamales, churros, Mexican rice and horchata.

Alessia Castro Garcia and Jason Gallardo are seniors at Roosevelt, with Gallardo’s family from Honduras and Castro Garcia’s family from El Salvador and Honduras. Events like this fill them with excitement for the Hispanic community at school. Castro Garcia believes that “the Hispanic community in Roosevelt is very welcoming and diverse,” with Gallardo adding that it’s

“open but also really tight knit,” mentioning that “we all know each other and feel comfortable around each other.” To be recognized as a community “means a lot” to Castro Garcia because the community is “appreciated and we celebrate each other” through these gatherings. Gallardo agrees, indicating that it’s valuable because for him “middle school and elementary school were predominantly Hispanic schools, so coming to Roosevelt was a little weird, like ‘oh, wow, there’s only a couple of us’ so it’s nice that we have events like this.” Besides festivities like Fiesta Latina, Castro Garcia and Gallardo have also celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by “spending time with each other and listening to music” and going to “a bunch of festivals they always have on random streets and going to two of those a week just to be surrounded by it [and] to appreciate the food and the people.”

By the end of Fiesta Latina, students like Castro Garcia and Gallardo felt the impact of celebrating their culture together. “I find every single moment meaningful because we’re spending time with each other” Castro Garcia said, reflecting on the sense of community. Gallardo found something new to appreciate. “My favorite moment is enjoying the food because that’s a new experience,” he exclaimed.

These cultural celebrations unite people, giving them an opportunity to enjoy and learn from the diverse cultures that make up the Roosevelt community.

Johana Gonzalez-Cruz is a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School writing for the News Review.

Election 2024

Early Voting Now

Early voting in Prince George’s County will be from Thursday, October 24 through Thursday, October 31 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. There are 11 early voting sites in the county. The closest site to Greenbelt is College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Ave., College Park. The next closest are: Laurel-Beltsville Senior Center, 7120 Contee Rd., Laurel, and Kentland Community Center, 2413 Pinebrook Ave., Landover.

For complete Prince George’s County voting information, visit princegeorgescountymd.gov/departments-offices/board-elections.

Care Bags to Boost Morale Make It to Troop in Lithuania



PHOTO COURTESY TYLER WHITE

Second Lt. Tyler White’s platoon displays the care bags sent to them by the Greenbelt American Legion and Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department volunteers. See the October 17 issue for the story.



PHOTO BY KATRINA BOVERMAN

A moonflower blooms as the full moon beams on Gardenway.

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Sports

ERHS Girls Soccer Team Is Undeclared in Regular Season

by Patrick Gleason



Sophomore Ariana Cruz helps the Raiders earn a victory earlier this season.

With two wins in two days, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) Girls Soccer team completed an undefeated regular season. Their 9-0 defeat of the Northwestern Wildcats culminated with a Senior Night celebration on October 17. A 10-member senior class that helped restart the program post-pandemic has much to celebrate and much more to accomplish. The Raiders stand at 14-0 as the Prince George’s County 4A league champions. A victory in the county championship game will add another trophy to their collection this fall, prior to the start of their state playoff campaign which begins on Friday, October 25 with a 5 p.m. home game.

Opponents have rarely tested keeper Nikki Lilja this year, while senior Jada Savage continues to catalyze a dangerous offensive attack for the Raiders. Savage scored two goals apiece in the back-to-back victories over Bullis and Northwestern. The Raiders preserved the 2-1 victory at Bullis on October 16 after conceding a late second-half goal in the season’s closest game to date. Junior Claudia van der Have assisted Savage for the initial goal, which the team’s leading goal scorer calmly placed into the side

netting on a blustery afternoon in Potomac. Savage struck again in the second half. After classmate Harlette Ngwatung played into her, Savage cut inside of two defenders then unleashed a shot past the goalkeeper.

With a victory Friday the Raiders will advance to the regional championship on Tuesday, October 29 for another 5 p.m. home game.

Junior Varsity

Meanwhile, the junior varsity ended a successful season by matching varsity’s back-to-back victories. They initiated the celebratory atmosphere on Senior Night with a 4-0 triumph over Oxon Hill, punctuated by sophomore Naomi Petralia’s first-half goal where she carried past a plethora of Clipper defenders before ripping a strong shot into the back of the net. A day later the Raiders avenged last season’s loss at Episcopal with a 3-0 win behind two goals from freshman Morgan Parks. The Raiders end the season with an impressive 10-0-4 record, having navigated a challenging schedule including several out-of-county opponents. Their season complete, the junior varsity’s next task is to support a varsity playoff run that hopes to extend deep into November.



Senior Harlette Ngwatung takes a shot for the undefeated Eleanor Roosevelt Raiders, who start their playoff run this week.

- Photos by William Swart

CROSS COUNTRY continued from page 1

the JV runners.

Last week’s performance helped solidify Saunders as number one in the state of Maryland for Class 4A and put him as the favorite for the state championship, according to head coach Elgin Gordon. “I think I can bring this county championship into regionals and state and basically represent P.G. County,” said Saunders.

A big difference in the preparation for the season for Saunders was practicing during the summer. “We had him doing work during the summer time so that he was already in shape instead of getting in shape when the season starts,” said Gordon. “It’s really good to see all that training pay off,” said Saunders.

Coach Gordon himself has an impressive resumé. Although he did not run cross country, he was a track and field standout athlete at ERHS. While there he made the United States Junior National Team and won a gold medal in the Junior World Championships. He says his coaching staff also have an impressive portfolio.

Gordon started coaching track and field at the high school in 2012, but only started coaching cross country four years ago. In those four years however, the cross country team has won three out of a potential four county championships, only losing the championship in his second year coaching.

This year’s county championship was the third in his career, and he prepped the kids by telling them about leaving a legacy. “For the kids, this was an opportunity to leave their legacy, winning the county championship three out of four years,” said Gordon. “No one can take that away from them.”

Saunders came into the sport in his freshman year which was around when Gordon started coaching it, and credits the coach for his own personal success in the sport. “Over the course of the four years he’s really helped me essentially come into this sport and learn to love it,” said Saunders about Coach Gordon.

Currently in his senior year, Saunders has a cross country career that is only just beginning. He is interested in continuing to run cross country in college and, based on how he does in college, perhaps at a professional level.

Jake Ballard is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.

Jaleb Saunders with his gold medal and the Top Senior Boy award

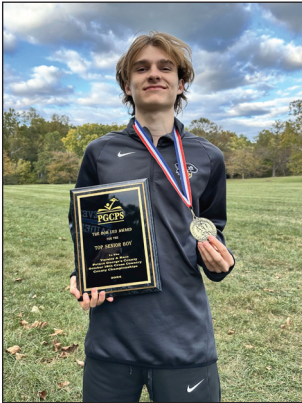


PHOTO COURTESY JALEB SAUNDERS

PGCPS XC Championships

Boys 5000m Varsity

Jaleb Saunders, 1st – 15:16.41 (PR)
Soren Bryan, 4th – 17:25.79 (PR)
Andrew Beckmann, 7th – 17:45.25 (PR)
Noah Eubanks, 11th – 18:18.07 (PR)
Liam Murphy, 12th – 18:19.00 (PR)
Josue Sanchez, 15th – 18:29.64 (PR)
Mathew Grim, 28th – 19:11.29 (PR)

Boys 5000m Junior Varsity

Segel Nkeng, 1st – 19:28.48 (PR)
Shawford Jackson, 2nd – 19:48.27 (PR)
Joseph Hudson, 5th – 20:42.55 (PR)
Femore Sirleaf, 6th – 20:52.17 (PR)
Diego Umana, 9th – 21:42.95 (PR)
Christian Cranney, 10th – 21:45.58 (PR)
Jason Gallardo, 12th – 22:13.21
Adrian Velasco, 13th – 22:21.04
Adam Stewart, 14th – 22:25.99 (PR)
John Kelley, 16th – 22:49.10 (PR)
Brendan Bailey, 22nd – 23:56.67 (PR)
Aarav Bhut, 36th – 26:49.23

Girls 5000m Varsity

Violet Ridge, 4th – 21:54.61 (PR)
Meghana Noojipady, 9th – 22:43.02 (PR)
Mariella McElhenny, 15th – 23:27.06 (PR)
Lyla Wold, 27th – 24:44.28 (PR)
Enaya Durrani, 38th – 26:13.83 (PR)
Esme Bryan, 46th – 26:47.40 (PR)
Faith Adewole, 50th – 27:53.01 (PR)

Girls 5000m Junior Varsity

Prisha Shah, 2nd – 26:46.02 (PR)
Ayode Oladimejij, 12th – 30:35.23
Melissa Tchoudja, 14th – 31:41.20 (PR)



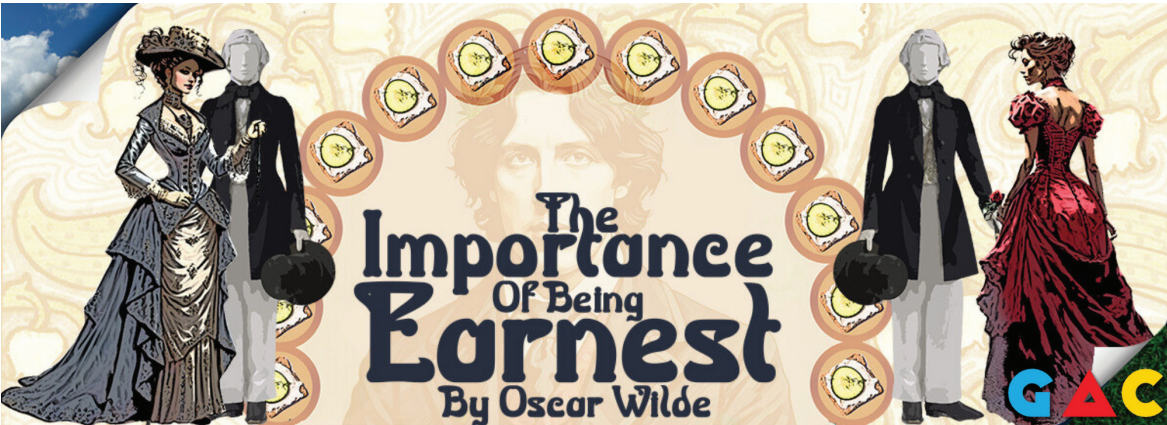
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LEGAL NOTICES

ANYONE KNOWING the whereabouts of LaWanna Chapman House A/K/A Lewanna Chapman House, Holice Chapman, Jr. and/or their heirs please contact Attorney Keith A. Doley 504-943-7071.

CROWN CASTLE is proposing to register a 105-foot-tall monopole telecommunications tower at the following site: 3620 Church Road, Bowie, Prince George’s County, Maryland (38° 56’ 23.36” N, 76° 46’ 6.59” W). The proposed lighting on the tower is paint with red lights. Any interested party that believes the proposed action may have a significant impact on the environment may file a Request for Environmental Review (Request) to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Such Request may only raise environmental concerns. Information regarding the project may be found under file number ASR# A1278967 on the FCC website www.fcc.gov/asr/applications. The Request must be filed with the FCC within 30 days of the notice being posted on the FCC website. The FCC requires that all Requests be filed electronically at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest. The Request must also be served upon Crown Castle by mailing a copy to 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 ATTN: Regulatory Department. 24-001955 / DMG.

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LAWN MAINTENANCE – GHI resident providing dependable lawn care for Greenbelt and College Park areas. Services include mowing, pruning hedges, yard cleanup,pressure washing. Reasonable rates. Please call or text at 240-391-8615.

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BOXED: \$10.90/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$16.35). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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#1 in Sales for Greenbelt from 2017-2023



T-Mobile Will Decommission Water Tower Telecom



PHOTO BY MARK HANYOK

Additional trees and telecom equipment have been removed from the property on Lastner Lane.

From Wednesday, October 9 through Friday, October 11, T-Mobile was at work near the standpipe decommissioning telecom equipment from the property. Rather than replace this equipment with a freestanding telecom monopole as originally planned (see the April 24 issue), T-Mobile

has enhanced nearby transmitters to cover the area, according to Wayne Anderson of the WSSC, who spoke with Greenbelt resident Mark Hanyok at the site. Therefore, the anticipated telecom monopole in the Ridge Road right-of-way will not be installed or required.

Next Play at GAC

The Importance of Being Earnest: A Trivial Comedy for Serious People is a comedy from the supremely witty pen of Oscar Wilde. The play will be performed at the Greenbelt Arts Center from November 1 through November 16, with 8 p.m. performances on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. (Audience masking is required on Sunday, November 10 for the benefit of our immunocompromised patrons.) Visit greenbeltartscenter.org for more information.

Concert Band Hosts Holiday Spectacular

Come hear the Greenbelt Concert Band perform holiday and classic favorites on Sunday, December 1 at 3 p.m. at the Community Center. This concert is open to the general public and free of charge. The Greenbelt Concert Band is a volunteer adult musical organization dedicated to providing quality musical performances for the citizens of Greenbelt, Prince George's County and the surrounding areas. Learn more at greenbeltconcertband.org.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. Face masks are recommended for all customers over the age of 2.

Storytimes

Friday, October 25, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/11585381. Wednesday, October 30, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/11585332. Thursday, October 31, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/11585310. Come for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

Talk Health

Friday, October 25, 11 a.m., ages 18+. Free blood pressure screening session. Attendees can get their blood pressure checked and bring their medications for a personalized review. Open to all. Register at pgcmls.info/event/11663026. Friday, October 25, 11:45 a.m., all ages. Come to the Talk Health's information table after the storytime where children and their caregivers will find education, resources and hands-on activities about ways to encourage healthy eating. Register at pgcmls.info/event/11665160.

Virtual Events

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmls.info/event.

Friends of Patuxent's Wildlife Holiday Bazaar

The Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Refuge will host their annual Wildlife Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the National Wildlife Visitor Center at Patuxent Research Refuge.

Discover one-of-a-kind gifts and artisanal goods created by over 20 vendors; take a walk through our unique Wildlife Images Bookstore & Nature Shop; and find new and gently used treasures in Baldy's Bargains, a thrift shop well worth exploring. Homemade treats can be purchased in the Bake Sale, and the Crane Café will be open for lunch and snacks. Songbird box kits will be available for purchase, as will the Friends' first-ever wildlife photo calendar, just published, for 2025.

Also new this year: Chesapeake Woodturner demonstrations! Members of the Southern Comforters Quilt Guild will hold a Meet & Greet in the Hollingsworth Gallery during the Bazaar, too.

Visitors can also meet live animals, enjoy a children's story time or make seasonal crafts. Generous donors have gifted the Bazaar with plants to take home for a small donation.



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Brick Townhome on Corner Lot 11'x17' Master bedroom. New laminate flooring on both levels; remodeled. Large fenced yard with front patio.
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3 Bedroom Towhome Large, fenced backyard that opens onto protected woodland. Remodeled top to bottom, opened kitchen & more.



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2 Bedroom Townhome Large corner lot with fenced back yard. Remodeled kitchen with new washer, and all-in-one washer dryer. Very nice!



Upper Level 1 Bedroom GHI Home Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Remodeled kitchen. Full-sized washer/dryer in separate laundry room.

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Mary Poppins to Play at Goddard Recreation Center in November

by Anne Gardner

Mary Poppins will be dropping in to Greenbelt for four weekends in November, courtesy of Goddard’s Music & Drama Club (MAD). The play, based on the original 1964 movie and the books by P.L. Travers, includes many of the same songs as the movie, such as Chim Chim Cher-ee, A Spoonful of Sugar, and Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. MAD started in the 1970s and has produced a full-scale musical almost every fall since then, along with stage plays and spring variety shows. The only exceptions to this were the Covid years when everything moved online. The club consists primarily of NASA employees and their families, although guests are also welcome to join in the fun.

For example, Greenbelter Will Wertz will be appearing on the MAD stage for the first time this year as Michael Banks and Greenbelter Jim Pasquale (bank chairman) has been performing with MAD since 2014.

Last year the club produced a small-cast musical, Stephen Sondheim’s A Little Night Music, to ease back into in-person theater. However, this year’s director, Greenbelter Jon Gardner, wanted to bring the club back to its pre-pandemic size with a fun and popular show that would bring out a much larger number of people – both as actors and in the audience. Those goals have been met, with 52 people in the cast and tickets selling well.

MAD typically double-casts all the lead parts, both because NASA employees can be sent on travel at short notice and also to give acting opportunities to as many club members as possible. Therefore, audience members should check the performance grid on the website to be sure to catch their favorite actors. Even with the double-casting, there will be about 37 people performing in each show.

Directing a show of this size is a huge undertaking, involving



PHOTO BY TERRY NGUYEN

When Mary holds your hand you feel so grand, your heart starts beating like a big brass band! Pictured from left are: Christa Kronser-Rollins (Mary Poppins), Bernard Kelly (ensemble) and Courtney McIntosh (Bert).

almost as many people off-stage as on-stage. A team of four choreographers created and taught the dances, music director Randy Barth taught the songs and an 11-piece orchestra has been practicing under the baton of Greenbelter Susan Breon. As opening night approaches, the set and stage magic designer and the sound and lights designers are finalizing their plans. There is also a team of costumers, and the whole cast is pitching in to help make costumes, sets and props, including the construction of a vast number of chimney sweep brooms.

The shows will take place in the Barney and Bea Recreation Center at 9998 Good Luck Road in Greenbelt. The Rec Center, on the edge of the Goddard campus, is used for meetings and events during the week, so any stage

and sets have to be dismantled at the end of each weekend and then put back in place in time for the following weekend’s shows.

Mary Poppins will be performed in the round, with the action taking place in the center of the room and the audience sitting around the edge of the stage area. Doors open half an hour before the show starts, and audience members in the front row can expect some interaction with the actors.

Tickets are selling fast, with four of the 12 shows already sold out. There will be no sales at the door; tickets must be bought in advance and shown to the security guard at the gate on Good Luck Road. Visit madtheater.org for more information and for ticket sales. The show is sure to be practically perfect in every way.

Greenbelter Meets the Pope Again



PHOTO COURTESY NEW WAYS MINISTRY

Greenbelter Frank DeBernardo met with Pope Francis again at the Vatican in Rome on Saturday, October 12. Bernardo is executive director of New Ways Ministry, and he and Sister Jeannine Gramick (one of the co-founders of New Ways Ministry) are members of the Catholic Community of Greenbelt. They are pictured on each side of Pope Francis in the photo, with other New Ways Ministry staff behind them. They took a group of people from the transgender community to meet the Pope at the Vatican and share about their lives and faith.

Travels with News Review



PHOTO BY MICHAEL G. STEWART

The News Review goes across the pond to Canterbury Cathedral with Julie Boynton.



PHOTO BY ERIK BLAUFUSS

From left, Sarah Blaufuss, Karine Blaufuss and David Blaufuss took their News Review to the French Alps in August. Mont Blanc is in the background.



PHOTO BY CATHERINE PLAISANT

John Klinovsky, Danny Lewis and Catherine Plaisant (not shown) arrive at Greenbelt Park campground for the night, after backpacking from their Greenbelt homes.



PHOTO BY JEFFREY ALLEN JONES

Jeff Jones, visiting Chicago, is reflected in Cloud Gate (a.k.a. The Bean), a giant bean-shaped sculpture with a mirror finish in Chicago’s Millennium Park. On his travels, he keeps up with the latest from Greenbelt using the online edition of the News Review at greenbeltnewsreview.com.